

Summer 2021 Sustainability Scholars Program Internship Opportunity

The UBC Sustainability Initiative (USI) is pleased to offer current UBC graduate students the opportunity to work on funded sustainability internship projects. Successful candidates work under the mentorship of a partner organization, and are immersed in real world learning where they can apply their research skills and contribute to advancing sustainability across the region.

- Visit the [Sustainability Scholars Program website](#) to learn [how the program works](#) and to [apply](#).
- Be sure to review the [application guide](#) to confirm your eligibility before applying.

Applications close at midnight on Sunday January 31, 2021.

Research project title

Recommending equity indicators and a framework to inform evaluation of climate change initiatives at the City of New West

Project description

The City of New Westminster is committed to taking bold action to address the climate emergency, which includes achieving greenhouse gas reductions required to keep global temperature increases below 1.5°C. To do so, we must engage and involve the entire community, ensuring special consideration is given to those most vulnerable. At the same time, we must continue to protect our ecosystem and urban forest while preparing for the unavoidable impacts that climate change brings. Through the development of the City's 7 Bold Steps in response to the March 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration, the City has set ten- and thirty-year targets to support the pathway to a zero-carbon future by 2050.

Highlighting the need to address the disproportionate impact climate change has on our most vulnerable, the City is developing climate equity indicators related to health, economic and social factors. These types of indicators are being developed in many jurisdictions nearby and globally. The City would like to conduct a research study to learn from existing work in this field, while also assessing their value and relevance in our local community. Determining what data is required to assess the indicators, data sources, and frequency of data updates will inform how the resulting equity indicators can be used as a tool to measure progress in protecting the community through climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives.

Project Scope:

- Jurisdictional scan and review of literature on equity indicators and frameworks in other municipalities (this may include interviewing experts).
- Review of City of New Westminster policies, climate action plan, official community plan and demographics.
- Identification of data requirements, availability, frequency and collection related challenges.

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- Based on the research findings develop recommendations on equity indicators that are relevant to the City of New Westminster's population and built environment. These recommendations should include data requirements and connection to relevant Bold Steps and existing policies.

Deliverables

- Interim Report – summarizing research findings
- Final Report – summarizing research findings and outlining recommendations
- Presentation to City staff
- Final report [or executive summary] for the online Scholars Project Library

Time Commitment

- This project will take 250 hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between May 3 and August 13.
- The scholar is to complete hours between 9am-5pm, Monday to Thursday, approximately 15-20 hours per week.
- The scholar should be available, either via virtual meeting platform or by telephone, for the project start-up meeting, periodic status updates and presentations as required.

Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability and social equity
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Project management and organizational skills
- Familiarity with benchmarking methods and tools
- Familiarity with principles of social equity, an asset

Applications close **midnight Sunday January 31, 2021**

Apply here: [Click here to apply](#)

Contact Karen Taylor at sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca if you have questions

Useful Resources

We are holding a special **resume preparation workshop for prospective Scholars** on January 19. [Click here for details and to register.](#)

Below are some links to useful resources to help you with your resume and cover letter (there are many more online). Some of these resources also provide information on preparing for your interview.

<https://students.ubc.ca/career/career-resources/resumes-cover-letters-curricula-vitae>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/graduate-pathways-success>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/cover-letter-cv-resume-templates-ubc-career-services>